

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 05122 310651Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 H-01 HA-05 SS-15 CA-01 SNM-05
FSI-04 /048 W

-----039163 010210Z /70

R 310630Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2354
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 5122

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CARR, SF
SUBJECT: MONTHLY PRISON VISITS

REF: STATE 208873

1. PRISON VISITS POSE MINIMAL PROBLEM FOR MISSION SINCE
CASES OF DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT OF AMERICANS IN SOUTH
AFRICA ARE FEW AND IN MANY INSTANCES INVOLVE NO MORE THAN
OVERNIGHT INCARCERATION FOR MINOR DRUG OFFENSES OR DISORDERLY
CONDUCT. AT THE MOMENT, THERE ARE NO AMERICANS IN LONGER
TERM IMPRISONMENT. WHEN THERE ARE SUCH PRISONERS, THEY ARE SEEN
AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH OR, DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES, MORE
FREQUENTLY. THEY ARE, OF COURSE, INITIALLY VISITED AS SOON
AFTER ARREST AS POSSIBLE.

2. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, JAILING OF AMERICANS IN TRANSKEI
AND BOPHUTHATSWANA POSES SPECIAL PROBLEM, FIRST IN LEARNING
OF THEIR DETENTION AND SECOND IN ASSISTING THEM. WE HAVE SO
FAR HAD ONLY ONE KNOWN INSTANCE OF AN AMERICAN HELD IN
THESE HOMELANDS--AN INDIVIDUAL DETAINED FOR SEVERAL
HOURS IN TRANSKEI. WITH DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, WE WOULD
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SEEK TO ARRANGE VISITS TO AMERICANS IMPRISONED IN TRANSKEI
OR BOPHUTHATSWANA FOR MORE THAN A BRIEF PERIOD.
EDMONDSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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